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THE WHY AND HOW OF THE MISSIONARY BUDGET

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

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Under the terms of the Missionary Canon the President and Treasurer of the Board of Missions are *ex-officio* members with full privileges. All the bishops of the Church, other than those elected to membership, are *ex-officio* members of the Board but are not entitled to vote.

THE WHY AND HOW OF THE MISSIONARY BUDGET

I. THE MISSION It is the Church's work to win the world to the allegiance of her Lord. To do that she must make the Gospel known everywhere. To make the Message known and gather people into the Kingdom she must send her representatives—clergymen, physicians, deaconesses, teachers and nurses—wherever people are living apart from God or in ignorance of Him. She must help in the building of churches, schools and hospitals. All this means the giving and spending of money. Her representatives who give their lives to her service must be supported; they must be equipped with the means to make their life service effective. They can do their work successfully only as the Church regularly, year after year, supplies the necessary money.

II. THE BOARD OF MISSIONS In order that this work of Church Extension may be properly organized and conducted, the Church has, by canon, created its Board of Missions, consisting of a president, a treasurer, sixteen bishops, sixteen presbyters, and sixteen laymen, chosen from different parts of the country. Twenty-six of the members are elected by the General Convention; twenty-four by the eight Missionary Departments. Each chooses a bishop, a presbyter and a layman to represent it. This Board meets four times a year, in February, May, September and December. Its Executive Committee meets every month except July and August. Its Council of Advice, con-

sisting of the officers, meets weekly, or oftener if necessary.

The Board of Missions, through its officers, is in constant communication with all parts of the field, and endeavors to do three things:

1. To keep the Church informed of the progress and needs of The Mission.
2. To secure recruits.
3. To secure and distribute the necessary funds.

III. THE APPROPRIATIONS The bishops, as the leaders in the field, must have a definite assurance from the Board of Missions of the amount of money they may expect for their work during each missionary year—September 1st to August 31st. In May of each year the Board of Missions makes its appropriations for the year beginning with the next September. That is, it notifies each bishop of the amount it has assigned for the support of workers and the extension of the work in his diocese or district. Appropriations once made by the Board have all the value of promissory notes. The offerings of the year may be insufficient to pay them, but the Board must make good its promises. At the present time the Board is making appropriations as follows:

1. At Home—To 36 dioceses and 22 missionary districts, with a total staff of 1,377 workers.
2. Abroad—To 9 missionary districts, with a total staff of 315 Americans and other foreigners and 861 native helpers.

The appropriations for work at home and abroad during the year September 1, 1912, to August 31, 1913, amount to $1,555,000.

IV. APPORTIONMENT PLAN

The Board of Missions does not divide money that has already been given. It is obliged to make appropriations in the expectation and hope that the amount it guarantees to the bishops will be given through it, by the congregations all over the country. In order that each congregation may know its minimum share of the support of The Mission, the General Convention in San Francisco in October, 1901, instructed the Board of Missions to divide the missionary budget each year among the dioceses and districts. This is known as the Apportionment Plan.

V. HOW THE APPORTIONMENT IS MADE

In order to determine the minimum share of each diocese the Board of Missions ascertains, from the diocesan journal, the average of the total receipts of all the congregations in the diocese for five years. The dioceses are then grouped into classes. Then the dioceses in each class are asked to give a certain percentage of their total receipts, the wealthiest dioceses giving the largest percentage. The dioceses in each succeeding class give smaller percentages of their total receipts and so on down the list to the poorer dioceses whose total receipts are less than $50,000. They give the smallest percentage.

The diocesan authorities are then expected to divide these amounts among the congregations, and the clergyman in charge of each congregation is asked to make known the amount suggested as the congregational offering, so that every member of every congregation in the country may know the minimum amount the congregation is asked to give.

VI. WHAT THE APPORTIONMENT IS AND IS NOT

The apportionment does not represent all that a diocese or congregation need do in order that the Church's Mission may be adequately maintained. It is only a *minimum* amount—the least sum that should be given in order that the Board of Missions may pay the appropriations and avoid debt. The apportionment provides only for the support of missionaries, and the running expenses of chapels, school and hospitals. It makes no provision for the purchase of land, the erection of buildings and the improvement and enlargement of the mission plant generally. These vitally important matters can only be provided for as the Church gives more than the bare apportionment.

The apportionment is not a tax or an assessment. Neither is it intended to be taken as a measure of the giving ability of any diocese or congregation. It is simply an endeavor to divide fairly among all members of the Church an expense common to all. Many congregations are able to give more than their apportionment and take pride in doing so.

VII. THE APPORTIONMENT PLAN AND "SPECIALS"

The Apportionment Plan does not necessarily mean doing away entirely with special gifts. Many congregations can and do give in addition to the apportionment further amounts for special fields or objects, in which for various reasons they have some particular interest. The Apportionment Plan does ask that the obligations assumed by the Board of Missions on behalf of the whole Church, and in accordance with the instructions of the General Convention, shall be first provided for.

Offerings can be designated for any field to which the Board makes appropriations and when so designated will apply upon the apportionment.

"Specials" do not apply on the apportionment, since the Board of Missions cannot use special gifts to pay the appropriations, but must send them to the fields named by the donor, in addition to the appropriation.

A Designated Contribution is a gift for some stated portion of the work to aid the Board of Missions in meeting its appropriation or promise.

A Special is a gift for some stated purpose, to be sent over and above any appropriation by the Board of Missions.

VIII. ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER THE APPORTIONMENT PLAN

1. In 1912 the offerings for missions from congregations and individual gifts, including the Sunday Schools and the Woman's Auxiliary, were $554,000 larger than in 1901.

2. In 1901, 1,993 congregations, out of a total of 6,546 in the whole Church, made missionary offerings. In 1912 about 5,742 out of a total of 6,952 congregations.

In 1902, the first year of the Apportionment Plan, eight dioceses and ten missionary districts completed their apportionments.

3. In 1912, these twelve dioceses:

East Carolina	North Carolina	Virginia
Florida	Pennsylvania	Western Massachusetts
Massachusetts	Rhode Island	West Texas
Montana	South Carolina	West Virginia

and these twenty missionary districts:

Africa	Eastern Oregon	North Texas
Alaska	Hankow	Philippines
Asheville	Honolulu	Shanghai
Arizona	Idaho	South Dakota
Brazil	Kearney	Utah
Cuba	New Mexico	Western Colorado
Eastern Oklahoma	North Dakota	

gave the full amount of their apportionments, or more.

In the other dioceses and districts many congregations gave their parochial apportionments, though the diocese as a whole fell short.

Tested by the experience of ten years, the Apportionment Plan is a thoroughgoing success. With a little more determined, concerted and widespread endeavor, a still larger gain may be achieved in 1913. Leaflet No. 1109—"The Forward Movement Plan"—tells how to do it.

The cost of administering the Church's Missionary work averages about eight per cent. of the amount of money passing through the treasury. Approximately three per cent. of the total expenditure for central expenses is for administrative purposes; while five per cent. is expended on what a business house would term "promotion."

¶ *Copies of this leaflet may be obtained without cost from the Board of Missions, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, by asking for No. 956.*

¶ *All offerings for Missions should be sent to Mr. George Gordon King, Treasurer, Church Missions House, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.*

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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